Jonathan Delorme

Essential Belief Statement

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There never was a specific date I can remember where I stopped and knew I wanted to become a teacher. It was more like a gradual realization of the signs that pointed me in the direction of education. First, there was the family history that surrounded me everywhere I went. My grandfather, mother, and brother all went to college to become teachers and my mom is still active in the field. Then, there were the amazing mentors in middle and high school that helped me develop a passion for not just teaching but for history as well. Finally, I came to the conclusion that I was actually quite good at helping others and thoroughly enjoyed doing so. This all spearheaded during the college application process, which naturally pushed me in the direction of Farmington, Maine.

I aspire to become a Secondary Education: Social Studies teacher for many reasons. I know that I want to be placed in either a middle or high school because I believe more thoughtful and engaging conversations can be had with students at these levels. Also, all of the mentors that have impacted my life the most have taught at the high school level. I am drawn to history because it is both fascinating and timeless. I believe that by studying our past we can learn from our mistakes and shape our world into a better place.

I am a highly interpersonal and bodily-kinesthetic learner, as well as someone who appreciates independence and exploration in the classroom. This is why I want to make it a point to give my students as many different avenues of expression as possible. I am aware that there are linguistic, visual, musical, as well as many other intelligences prevalent in our society today. My philosophy is that freedom of choice in the classroom can foster greater intellectual development and creativity. I believe that an essay does not need to be the only way a student can proclaim their mastery of a concept. My goal is to be flexible, caring, and do my best to promote student expression, and I believe this goal originates from my personal learning style.

However, I do fear that I will not be able to accomplish this goal because of the fact that I am weak in certain traits such as musical and visual learning. I am afraid that my students’ learning will be hindered due to my lack of skill in certain areas. I expect to be an approachable, professional, and above all else fun teacher. I believe that one learns best when they are having a good time. I expect myself to find ways to bring history to life for my students and relate it to the present. If I can do that, along with provide a safe and relaxed classroom environment, then I will feel like an accomplished teacher.

As I continue my journey through the University of Farmington system I expect to develop my skills and learn the processes in how to attain my goals. Practicum is the first major step in the never-ending quest to become a better teacher. I trust that Practicum will help guide me towards my goals and build the foundations that I will carry on throughout my career.